The other amazing suggestion advanced by a member was that in the case of a judicial officer having been suspected of being remiss, a committee to enquire into his conduct should include a member of the Legislative Council and a member of this Assembly. Now, it will be most unfortunate to the country if judges stood in daily fear of the executive Government or looked constantly at the executive Government for reward or recognition. The judiciary of the country should be far above that. If the judiciary should also be in dread of the private individuals who have come in as members of the Council, or of this Assembly, the position will indeed become very grave and must badly affect the judicial administration of the country. That is a suggestion which I am not going to entertain for a moment.

The next is that Government should forthwith order an enquiry on every newspaper report that might appear to reflect on a Judge. Here too, I will ask the member not to advocate such sweeping courses. There are newspapers and newspapers; there are newspaper reports and newspaper reports. On all these matters, the Hon'ble the High Court may be depended upon to watch over the officers beneath them.

For the rest I need not assure you again that the High Court have made it a close concern of theirs to see that the administration of justice is speeded up. Shortly after the officer appointed has reported, they will take up the whole question and take a comprehensive view of the position. I am sure the Honourable the High Court is keeping steadily before them this view of the question, the one important consideration in the matter, that is the quick, efficient and just administration of justice.

34. Appointment of superintendents of estates as ex-officio Registrars of Births and Deaths under the Registration of Births and Deaths Regulation.

MR. S. N. URE (*Member, Mundakayam Planters' Association*) said that a certain amount of trouble had arisen lately in the Mundakayam district as coolies were being summoned to court for not registering births. The Mundakayam Planters' Association took the matter up, but they found difficulty in discovering the registrar for each particular estate. One estate, it was reported, had a registration form returned three times, on the ground that it was sent to the wrong officer each time. The association felt convinced that it would be to the advantage of every one concerned if estate managers were made ex-officio Registrars of Births and Deaths. Records could be submitted to the central office monthly, quarterly, or as Government directed.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Ure, it was in March 1927 that the Sanitary Commissioner with the Government made certain proposals for investing your associations' medical officers and estate superintendents, both on the High Range and the Peermade Division, with powers as ex-officio Registrars of Births and Deaths under the Registration of Births and Deaths Regulation, of course in an honorary capacity. The proposal was strongly supported by the Commissioner, Deyicolam, and the Land Revenue Commissioner went into the whole

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question himself. But he found one serious difficulty and that was if you or any other honorary registrar of births and deaths defaulted or committed some error, there is no provision of law by which he can inflict punishment upon you, and there the matter rests. The question will be looked into again and if we can possibly without violating the law give effect to it the matter will receive careful consideration and if necessary I shall consider the question of meeting the point raised by the Land Revenue Commissioner and investing him with the power to deal suitably with such Registrars of Births and Deaths and managers.

35. Appointment of an Honorary Magistrate at Mundakayam under the Rubber Thefts Prevention Regulation, IX of 1087.

MR. S. N. URE (*Member, Mundakayam Planters' Association*) said that the subject of the appointment of an Honoray Magistrate for Mundakayam had already been considered by Government and that the Association had put foward the names of Messers. Harley and M'clean to the Commissioner, Devicolam.

With the fall in the price of rubber, there was little incentive to stealing but as prices were rising again the temptation was likely to grow stronger. The Association therefore requested Government to appoint an Honorary Magistrate for the Mundakayam District.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Ure, this question of appointing a Magistrate or a Bench of Honorary Magistrates to deal specifically with offences under the Rubber Thefts Prevention Regulation is one which is at the present moment, and has been for some time past, engaging the attention of Government. There are one or two little difficulties in the way, and one is that a Bench of Magistrate can be created only in accordance with the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code. Now, if you make a Magistrate under the Criminal Procedure Code, he will have no powers to conduct investigations, or make searches, or arrests, under the Rubber Thefts Prevention Regulation because the Criminal Procedure Code does not envisage that particular Regulation. That is one difficulty in the way. Our Law Officers are examining the question with a view to see whether there is some way by which this difficulty can be overcome, and you may expect a decision from the Government within two or three months.

36. Suggestions for the development of agriculture.

Mr. CHACKO JOHN (*Member, Kottayam taluk, Group 1*) said that Travancore was first and foremost an agricultural country, but the economic condition of the people was very poor. Most of them were heavily involved in debts. They could hardly afford to find capital for the development of agriculture by the use of scientific manures or modern implements. Nor had the Agricultural Department succeeded in bringing home to the people the usefulness of scientific manures or the need for adopting modern methods of agriculture. Intensive propaganda work was what was most required in this matter on the part of the department. They should open model farms in all rural areas, where the products flourishing in each locality should be cultivated on scientific

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